Powwow Receives Boost With Council Donation

2-10-88

An "Introduction to the Heber Valley Powwow" has been scheduled at the Wasatch County High School auditorium, Feb. 17, at 7 p.m., free to the public. The purpose of the three-hour show is to prepare the people of the valley for the June powwow and create a congenial atmosphere to welcome the Indians who will be participating.

The Heber City council is contributing \$4,000 to the powwow, from centennial celebration funds, because the second annual powwow will be part of the 1989 centennial festivities.

The Wasatch County Commission has agreed to let the powwow be held at the rodeo and fair grounds, without charge.

Ken Davis, local powwow coordinator, has requested permission from the school board to set up the arena and booths on the Wasatch County High School grounds, but he said the board didn't react favorably to the request. The board will consider the proposal and make a final decision this week, reported Dr. Henry Jolley, school superintendent.

Because thousands of Indians are expected and will need camp-grounds, the powwow committee had hoped to be able to use both the fair grounds and the school grounds. Davis said there have already been requests for 12 booths, although the

committee hasn't even started to contact people to offer booth spaces.

The powwow is also expected to draw crowds of out-of-town spectators, contributing to the valley's tourism development. But the main purpose, according to Jim Belagodi, powwow chairman, is to promote understanding between Indian and non-Indian cultures. The Feb. 17 introduction will begin that understanding.

Indian drummers and dancers will perform in traditional costumes. Professor Nola Lodge, an Oneida Indian who teaches Indian culture at the University of Utah, will emcee the evening and will be one of the featured speakers who will explain the dances, costumes and music. They will also talk about the responsibilities of the head arena director, head man and woman dancers, and head drummer, and the strict etiquette required during a powwow, by both participants and spectators.

The program will include a question and answer period.

Indian dancers and drum groups tour on powwow circuits, similar to rodeo circuits, competing for prizes—the bigger the purses the better the competitors. Heber Valley hopes to be able to offer \$10,000 to \$15,000 in prize money, the second largest purse in the nation, enough to draw the top performers. Each competitor travels with an entourage of up to 100 supporters.

A medicine man will arrive early to oversee and bless the arena construction as it proceeds.

There will be concerts, exhibits and booths, where arts, crafts and food can be purchased. All forms of liquor and drugs are banned at powwows.

Davis said the city's \$4,000 is enough to put on at least a small powwow. However, the committee hopes to receive additional financial support from local businesses and private individuals. A couple of national advertisers have also expressed interest, so he is still optimistic that the Heber Valley Powwow can be a major event, drawing national attention.

Anyone who wishes to contribute may contact Davis at 654-2590.



A Shot Of Adrenaline

The timing couldn't have been better. The Heber Valley Powwow had been gaining a steady momentum since its inception and needed a shot of adrenaline. That shot came last week when the Heber City Council decided to put its money where its idealism had been, by appropriating \$4,000 towards the powwow.

It is our hope that this boosts enthusiasm and leads to a successfully powwow this year and in

the years to come.

The promise of a unique, cultural event that also looks as if it will be a monetary success should go a long way towards generating support. Already there have been 12 requests for booths to be set up during the festivities and this has occurred even before a general announcement.

In our discussions with valley residents, we have discovered a great deal of support for the event. At times, a few people have expressed ambivalence about the nature of the activities. The thought of our valley doubling its population for a few days with people from a different culture definitely should cause concern. But it is a concern that has been anticipated by the powwow committee.

The committee will be holding a series of lectures beginning Feb.17 that will seek to foster understanding between whites and non-whites.

The evening promises to be informative, with University of Utah Professor Nola Lodge lecturing on Indian culture. Hopefully, residents fears will be placated. We also hope they become something of educators when the actual event takes place, which can only enhance the powwow.

munity

panies.

To complement Heber Valley's 8th annual Piano Clinic and Competition on March 19, the community will have the opportunity to share in the magic of Lupo's music from 12 to 1 p.m. in the high school auditorium. There will be a \$2 admission charge for those not

involved with the piano clinic.

Our society is enriched by ind viduals who have achieved excellence, such as Benedetto Lupo These individuals commit them selves to the hard work necessary to perfect a talent, then allow others to share the musicianship to which they have devoted their lives.

Eagle Scout Award

Brian Hellewell received his Eagle award Jan. 27 at the Heber Stake Court of Honor. He is the son of J.D. and Carol Hellewell. He is a member of Heber 4th Ward Scout Troop 220.

For Brian's Eagle service project, he planned and supervised the painting of the playground at Cen-

tral Elementary School.

Brian really enjoys camping and scouting. He would like to thank all those scouts and leaders who have helped him achieve this award, especially his Scoutmaster Ken Stratton.



Brian Hellewell

Senior